laws, convergence of services for the benefit of parents of child labour in order to improve their economic conditions and launching of projects in areas of high concentration of child labour. So far, 76 child labour projects have been sanctioned in the child labour endemic States for coverage of 1.5 lakh children. A major activity undertake under the project is the establishement of special schools to provide non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, health care and stipend of Rs. 100/- per child per month to compensate the loss of earning. Parents of child labour in project areas are expected to be covered on priority, under the existing poverty alleviation and employment. generation schemes with a view to raising their economic status so that they are able to send their children to school instead of work.

Medical facilities in E.S.I.C. Dispensaries

1627. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the number of insurance medical officers in E.S.I.C. has declined from 3160 to 3076 during the period from 1995 to 1996 but the number of insured persons covered by E.S.I.C. doctors has increased from 2127 to 2374 during that period which had adversely affected the medical facilities in E.S.I.C. Dispensary; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps Government have taken and the position at present both of medical officers and insured persons?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) During 1994-95 and 1995-96 there were 11,757 and 11,915 doctors including Insurance Medical Practioners (IMPs) respectively under the ESI Scheme. As on 31.3.98 there were 6142 IMOs, 2703 Specialists and 2885 IMPs sanctioned for providing medical care to 90.95 lakh insured persons. Necessary arrangements have been made by the ESIC and the State Governments for providing adequate medical facilities to all the insured persons covered under the ESI Scheme.

बिहार के घटवार और पैड़धा को अनुसूचित जाति की सूची में शामिल किया जाना

1628. **श्री जनार्दन यादव:** क्या सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि बिहार सरकार के घटवार, पैड़धा के अधिकतर पिछड़े वर्गों को अनुसूचित जातियों की सूची में शामिल करने से संबंधित कोई प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त जातियों को अनुसूचित जाति की सुविधाएं कब तक प्रदान की जाएंगी?

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय की राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती मेनका गांधी): (क) और (ख) यह मामला बिहार सरकार के साथ उठाया गया है जिनसे उत्तर की प्रतीक्षा है।

Voluntary Organisations in Himachal Pradesh

1629. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of voluntary organisation based in Himachal Pradesh receiving grants from Government;

(b) the progress made by these NGOs;

(c) whether steps are being taken to encourage greater involvement of NGOs in Himachal Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Two voluntary organisations in Himachal Pradesh are getting grant-in-aid from the Ministry of Social Justice and Employment. One is running an Education cum-Training Centre for adult, deaf, dumb and blind, and also a school for deaf, dumb, blind and physically